

2FW 3731 \$

Atty. Docket No.: 2748CON(203-3036CON) **PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): John E. Carlson, et al. Examiner: Michael H. Thaler  
Serial No.: 09/994,980 Group: Art Unit 3731  
Filed: November 27, 2001 Dated: August 16, 2004  
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING VASCULAR ACCESS

Commissioner for Patents-  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	SMALL ENTITY	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	ADDIT. RATE FEE	ADDIT. RATE FEE
TOTAL	25 MINUS 50	=	X 9	\$	X 18 \$ 0
INDEP.	3 MINUS 5	=	X 43	\$	X 86 \$ 0
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM			X 140	\$	X 280 \$ 0
			TOTAL		OR TOTAL \$ 0
			ADDIT. FEE	\$ -0-	

- \* If the entry in Co. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.  
\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".  
\*\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".  
The Highest No. Previously Paid For (Total or indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

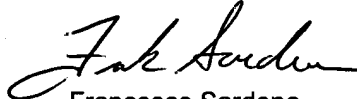
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on date below.

Dated: August 16, 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
Francesco Sardone

- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. **21-0550** in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Two (2) copies of this sheet are enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. **21-0550** therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,



Francesco Sardone  
Reg. No. 47,918  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

**Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP**

445 Broad Hollow Road  
Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
Tel.: (631) 501-5700  
Fax: (631) 501-3526

FS/td



**PATENT APPLICATION**  
Attorney Docket: 2748CON (203-3036CON)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT "A"**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 14, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 14 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.

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Dated: August 16, 2004

  
Francesco Sardone